

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A protective hand guard comprising:  
a gelatinous cushion which provides for distribution of forces over a large area, thereby ~~protecting~~ designed to protect a hand from point load impact forces when said protective hand guard is worn; ~~and~~  
a palm strap is designed to secure the protective hand guard to the hand; and  
wherein the gelatinous cushion is encased in a vinyl or laminate coated fabric and the gelatinous cushion is thin enough to fit within a glove.

5. (Currently Amended) The protective hand guard of claim 4, wherein the ~~gelatinous cushion is encased in a vinyl or laminate coated fabric, which allows the protective hand guard to conform to a shape of the hand.~~ protective hand guard does not include a thumb attachment.

6. (Currently Amended) The protective hand guard of claim 5, wherein the fabric includes any one of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyurethane (PU) coated fabric, ~~Lyera~~ and spandex backed material.

7. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 4, wherein the gelatinous cushion is secured on the protective hand guard such that it protects the dorsal surface of the hand.

8. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 4, wherein the palm strap is arranged on the protective hand guard such that it covers a palm surface of the hand.
9. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 4, wherein the gelatinous cushion is arranged on the protective hand guard such that it protects a palm surface of the hand.
10. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 4, further includes a cushion stabilizer designed to protect a lower region of the dorsal surface of hand.
11. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 4, wherein the gelatinous cushion extends such that it protects a lower region of the dorsal surface of hand.
12. (Currently Amended) A protective hand guard comprising:  
~~a gelatinous cushion which provides for distribution of forces over a large area, thereby protecting a hand from point load impact forces when worn; and~~  
a gelatinous cushion which provides for distribution of forces over a large area, thereby designed to protect a hand from point load impact forces when said protective hand guard is worn;  
a palm strap is designed to secure the protective hand guard to the hand;  
a finger loop to secure the protective hand guard to the hand; and  
wherein the gelatinous cushion is encased in a vinyl or laminate coated fabric and the gelatinous cushion is thin enough to fit within a glove.
13. (Currently Amended) The protective hand guard of claim 12, wherein the ~~gelatinous cushion is encased in a vinyl or laminate coated fabric, which allows the~~

~~protective hand guard to conform to a shape of the hand.~~ protective hand guard does not include a thumb attachment..

14. (Currently Amended) The protective hand guard of claim 13, wherein the fabric includes any one of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyurethane (PU) coated fabric, ~~Lyera~~ and spandex backed material.

15. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 12, wherein the gelatinous cushion is secured on the protective hand guard such that it protects the dorsal surface of the hand.

16. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 12, wherein the finger loop is arranged on the protective hand guard such that it goes around a finger of the hand.

17. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 12, wherein the gelatinous cushion is arranged on the protective hand guard such that it protects a palm surface of the hand.

18. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 12, further includes a cushion stabilizer designed to protect a lower region of the dorsal surface of hand.

19. (Previously Presented) The protective hand guard of claim 12, wherein the gelatinous cushion extends such that it protects a lower region of the dorsal surface of hand.